

In the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously amended) In a computer-based system for vehicle rentals which includes a server which processes user inputs from a user's computer over a communications network and provides information responsive thereto to the user's computer over the communication network from which a service contract is generated, the improvement comprising a memory in which is stored a data set relating to pick-up and drop-off locations for vehicles to be rented, and programming responsive to a user input identifying a geographical location in which the user desires to drop off a rented vehicle, which accesses the memory and provides to the user computer over the communications network data indicating at least two locations closest to the geographic location input for pick-up and at least two locations nearest to the geographic location input for drop-off.
4. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, 2 or 3 wherein the communications network is the Internet and the programming provides the data to the user computer in the context of one or more web pages.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously amended) An Internet-based system for aiding users to create and confirm reservations for truck rentals, the system comprising: a web server for providing a plurality of web pages accessible through the Internet and for processing user inputs received through the Internet from a user's computer operating an Internet browser displaying the plurality of web pages, at least one web page having at least one input field for receiving the user inputs; and a backend server operatively connected to the web server and responsive to the user inputs, the backend server having a memory for storing the plurality of web pages, for storing truck-related information in a database, and for storing user-generated reservation information; and at least one program module for processing the user inputs and the truck-related information to determine and display to the user a set of closest locations associated with a departure location and a destination location specified by the user, to access and display directions from a user-specified address to the departure and destination locations, to generate towing guide information corresponding to a user-specified vehicle to be towed by the rented truck, to generate and display a quote for the truck rental corresponding to the user inputs, for processing payment information provided by the user, for generating the reservation information from the user inputs, and for confirming the reservation to the user with a confirmation message.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the at least one program module, responsive to modifications of the user inputs prior to confirmation of the reservation, modifies the reservation information.

12. (Previously amended) In an Internet-based system for aiding users to create and confirm reservations for truck rentals which includes a web server for providing a plurality of web pages accessible through the Internet and for processing user inputs received through the Internet from a user's computer operating an Internet browser displaying the plurality of web pages which include at least one input field for receiving the user inputs, the improvement comprising a web page

including data fields containing all information necessary for a service contract, the information either provided in response to user input or available from the system, in which all data fields may be modified on the web page by the user without having to revert to another web page.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Amended) In a computer-based system for vehicle rentals which processes user inputs from a user's computer over a communications network and provides information responsive thereto to the user's computer over the communication network from which a service contract is generated, the improvement comprising receiving user information which a new user provides as part of the process of requesting a reservation for a vehicle the user desires to rent, the information identifying a vehicle pick-up location and a vehicle drop-off location, and providing the user with information identifying at least two locations closest to the vehicle pick-up location and at least two locations nearest to the vehicle drop-off input by the user.

16. (Previously Amended) In an Internet-based method for aiding users to create and confirm reservations for truck rentals comprising providing information to a user which a user uses to select useful truck rental information, receiving the information input by the user and generating a reservation form for the user, the improvement comprising generating a reservation form on a web page which contains all reservation information provided in response to user input which may be changed by the user directly on the form on that web page without having to access another web page.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended) A method for facilitating truck rentals comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of web pages accessible to a user through the Internet, at least one web page including a form for receiving user inputs;

storing in a memory truck-related information including types of trucks and associated rental prices;

storing in the memory expertise-based information, including vehicle-specific towing requirements and directions to respective locations of truck rental affiliates;

processing user inputs with a server using the truck-related information and the expertise-related information to assist the user to generate and confirm a service contract to rent a selected truck;

~~The method of claim 17,~~ wherein the expertise-based information includes a table of vehicle towing information; and

wherein the step of processing includes the steps of:

receiving user-input selections of equipment including a selection of a truck for rental and a selection of a vehicle type for towing by the selected truck;

accessing the vehicle towing table to determine if the selected vehicle is capable of being towed by the selected truck; and

generating a towing advice indication for display to the user whether the selected truck is appropriate for towing the selected vehicle.

19. (Currently amended) A method for facilitating truck rentals comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of web pages accessible to a user through the Internet, at least one web page including a form for receiving user inputs;

storing in a memory truck-related information including types of trucks and associated rental prices;

storing in the memory expertise-based information, including vehicle-specific towing requirements and directions to respective locations of truck rental affiliates;

processing user inputs with a server using the truck-related information and the expertise-related information to assist the user to generate and confirm a service contract to rent a selected truck;

~~The method of claim 17,~~ wherein expertise-based information includes an affiliate table of truck-rental affiliates including geographic locations and a direction table storing travel directions to the affiliates; and

wherein the step of processing includes the steps of:
receiving user-inputs corresponding to a departure location and a destination location;
accessing the affiliate table to determine the closest affiliates to the departure and destination locations, respectively;
accessing travel directions for the closest affiliates; and
providing the travel directions for display to the user.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the user inputs indicate discount eligibility; and

wherein the processing step includes the steps of:
generating a quote for rental of a selected truck from the user-accessible data sets; and
adjusting the quote using a discount corresponding to the user inputted discount eligibility.

23. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the user inputs correspond to truck selection, departure and destination locations, and a pickup date; and

wherein the processing steps includes the steps of:
generating a service contract data set, including a quote for the truck rental, associated with the user.

24. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the user inputs include a selection of moving accessories; and

wherein the step of generating the service contract data set includes the step of:
adding the costs for the accessories in the quote for the truck rental.

25. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the user inputs include a reservation confirmation command; and

wherein the step of processing includes the steps of:
receiving the reservation confirmation command; and
generating a confirmation message to be provided to the user.